

DDJC Gets Top Marks from Environmental Regulators

By Doug Imberi, DDJC Public Affairs

The best comments you can receive from an agency doing an environmental inspection are - "no violations and no corrective action required". Those were the comments of inspectors after recent audits. In August, the San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District inspected Defense Distribution Depot San Joaquin, CA's (DDJC) Sharpe site and found no violations or required actions. The two and a half hour inspection included visits to 15 sites containing diesel or gas engines that power generators, boilers, water pumps and gas station pumps. The inspector examined log books, checked gauges, and performed visual inspections of each operation requiring an air pollution control permit.

Additionally, the Offices of Emergency Services from the state of California and San Joaquin County conducted a two-day, comprehensive inspection of the hazardous materials chlorine and sulfur dioxide used in water processing operations at the Sharpe and Tracy sites.



DDSP Commander CAPT Jim Naber, SC, USN (left), accompanies members of the DDSP Fire Department as they receive a Unit Citation from Harrisburg Mayor Steven Reed (right) for rescuing a Harrisburg City Firefighter as part of a Rapid Intervention Team on February 21, 2004.

The audit resulted in no violations or required corrective actions. Officials also inspected systems using the chemicals, examining log books, equipment, reporting programs, training programs, management systems and emergency response programs. Inspectors commented favorably on overall housekeeping and the professionalism of DDJC's fire department's HAZMAT capability.

City of Harrisburg Recognizes DDSP Firefighters DDSP FD gets a nod from the mayor for a "May Day" save last February

By Sherre Mitten-Bell, DDSP Public Affairs

Mayor Stephen R. Reed, of Harrisburg, PA, recognized the extraordinary efforts of city and volunteer firefighters, rescue personnel, and private citizens for their life-saving actions over the past year. The awards program, held in October, kicked off the city's observances of Fire Safety Month.

Among the awards presented was a Unit Citation to the Defense Distribution Depot Susquehanna, PA (DDSP) Federal Fire Department including members David Hindermeyer, Keith Dolon, Jared Mumma, and Gary Gift, for their exemplary teamwork in helping rescue a trapped city firefighter at a two-alarm blaze on February 21, 2004. Because of the extensive expertise and training of DDSP fire personnel, they are called upon by the city of Harrisburg as a Rapid Intervention Team to provide backup fire and rescue services. This includes rescuing other unit firefighters who are overcome from smoke while within a burning structure. That situation is described by Fire and Emergency Services as a May Day Save.

DDSP Commander CAPT Jim Naber, SC, USN and Assistant Fire Chief John Breining accompanied the DDSP team to the ceremony, which was held in the Harrisburg City Government Center. "I am proud of the DDSP firefighters. I am not surprised that they are being recognized. They have been cited by the DoD as being some of the finest firefighters in the Federal Service," said CAPT Naber. "I have been attending

one gathering after another to recognize their proficiency. They are the very best and are great representatives of the New Cumberland Depot and the Department of Defense."

Boy Scouts & DDSP Firefighters Extinguish Ill Preparedness

By Abraham E. Molinares, DDSP Public Affairs

The Boy Scouts of America, during their weekend Fall Camporee in October, met and participated with the Defense Distribution Depot Susquehanna, PA (DDSP) firefighters for a well-received program on emergency preparedness. This year's Fall Camporee theme was "be prepared."

DDSP firefighters took the time to instruct scouts on identification and operation of several types of fire extinguishers. More than 250 Boy Scouts participated in the training which included real life extinguishing of a controlled fire. This was one of many sessions that helped the boys earn credit toward their first aid or emergency preparedness merit badges. "It was great to know how much our participation in this event was appreciated not only by the scouts attending, but by many other organizations that provided displays and training as well," said DDSP Fire Department member Jim Benson.

The Department of Homeland Security has partnered with the Boy Scouts of America to increase the level of citizen preparedness across the country. They have asked the Boy Scouts of America to build upon the foundation of Emergency Readiness by helping citizens across the country prepare for emergencies of all kinds. The DDSP Fire Department is proud to carry that message and continue their outstanding community relations with the public. In return for their active enthusiasm and volunteer effort, the Kint Corporation, a sponsor of Fall Camporee, donated fifty-five fire extinguishers to the DDSP Fire Department to keep and use during the training.